

6 o'clock in the evening the smoke of seven German ships became visible. Three of them seemed to be light cruisers and four were large transports.

Soon the batteries on shore opened fire on the German squadron. The German ships replied and the confusion of the gun on both sides continued until a mighty crash of sound.

The German ships were six miles away, being unable to approach nearer on account of the shallow water. Their fire was inaccurate. Nobody in Puerto was killed, but a few persons in Orizaba lost their lives. The railway lines were slightly damaged, but were quickly repaired.

The Germans fired uninterruptedly from 11 o'clock in the evening until 3 the next afternoon. Panic seized the population and the people of all classes rushed for the railroad station and many were carried away on a crowded train, passengers occupying even the roofs of cars. From the cars there were seen the hulls of three German transports which Russian artillery had crippled.

Upon the repulse of the German squadron the train returned, bringing the panic and telegraph officials.

Another account says that the Russians captured German transports and planes carrying a landing force and sank two torpedo boats.

#### AUSTRIANS CLAIM TO BE GENERALLY SUCCESSFUL

Vienna, Aug. 25 (via London, Aug. 25, 8:51 p. m.)—The following official statement was issued today at the Austrian war office:

Russian war theater: The troops of Archduke Ferdinand and General Konev, together with our allies, pushed back the enemy, fighting constantly, toward Lema.

The resistance of the Russians fighting southwest of Breslau-Löwen was broken and they were driven back to the fortress girdle by the division of Field Marshal von Arz and German troops.

Northeast of Vladova, German forces are driving the enemy further into the marshy district. The cavalry under General Kahlisch is advancing on both sides of the road from Kovel to Kobrin. (Kobrin lies to the east of Breslau-Löwen and is on the opposite side of the threatened Pripiet marshes from Kovel.)

Heavy assaults on the fortified village on the railway line from Kovel to Breslau-Löwen.

Italian war theater: In the district of the Dobro plateau our artillery forced the hasty retreat of enemy infantry which had occupied the south slopes of Monte del Monte Reido. Our front southwest of San Marc again was under heavy artillery fire. At noon the Italians began a new attack, which was repulsed before our defensive positions advanced towards the northern sector of the plateau of Lavarone. Early this morning the attack was repulsed.

Artillery combats continue along almost the entire Tyrolean frontier.

#### VIOLENT ARTILLERY ACTIONS ON WEST FRONT

Paris, Aug. 25 (10:10 p. m.)—The following official communication was issued today:

Artillery actions took place on the whole of the front today. They were especially violent in the sector to the north of Arras, between the Somme and the Oise, in Champagne, in the Argonne forest and in the forest of Le Preire.

In these last two sectors our mortars and heavy artillery several times proved particularly efficacious.

In the Vosges the cannonade is less violent and no infantry engagement has taken place.

A German aeroplane has dropped four bombs on Vesoul. A woman and a child were slightly wounded. The damage done was unimportant.

#### RUSSIAN SUCCESSES IN CAUCASUS REGION

Petrograd, Aug. 25 (via London, 7:40 p. m.)—The Russian war office today issued the following statement on military operations in the Caucasus:

In the Patus valley our troops occupied Kouray mountains after fighting in which we took some prisoners.

#### GREAT OBJECTIVE ON DARDANELLES NOT YET GAINED

London, Aug. 25 (8:34 p. m.)—Recent operations on the Gallipoli peninsula have enabled the British troops to extend materially the area in their possession and to connect their lines along a front of more than twelve miles, according to an official statement issued here tonight.

The statement indicates also that additional troops have been landed on the peninsula, although no details are given on this point and it simply is stated that "further reinforcements have arrived." It is stated that "times have been very heavy but that the Turks suffered more severely than the British."

The public is warned that in spite of encouraging reports made, the true objective of the operations has not been gained and that "further serious and costly efforts will be required before a decisive victory is won."

#### BELIEVE STEAMER AND 96 PERSONS PERISHED

New York, Aug. 25.—Officials of the United Fruit company stated here today that their vessel Marowine with twenty-eight passengers and crew of sixty-eight escaped foundering in the tropical storm. They believe the Marowine was sunk off the northern coast of Cuba.

Journal staffs are being quick results.

## BIG SCANDAL IS DISCOVERED IN THE POLITICS OF MANITOBIANS

Payment of \$882,208 Made on Public Building for Less Than \$300,000 Actually Earned by Contractors.

### SURPLUS IS LARGELY USED IN ELECTIONS

Material Witnesses Are Said to Have Been Spirited Out of Canada to Prevent Testimony.

Winnipeg, Aug. 25.—(Special Leased Wire.)—The enormous overpayments made to the contractors who erected the new parliament buildings of the province of Manitoba, that these overpayments in part at least were designed to provide a campaign fund for the recent Roblin government, and that some members of that government were cognizant of what was going on, were contained today in the report of the royal commission which inquired into the charges.

The three members of the commission, Chief Justice Mathers, Justice MacDonald and Sir Hugh John Macdonald, Winnipeg city police magistrate, Winnipeg city police magistrate, are unanimous in their findings, which were published today.

Thomas Kelly and sons are the contractors named in the report as having received the enormous overpayments.

Witnesses Lacking.

The report states that the commissioners were hampered by the absence of material witnesses and the reluctance of others to testify, and charges that \$25,000 was spent in keeping a witness away.

Dr. Simpson, charged with having been the financial agent who raised the election fund out of the parliament building extras, was not questioned by the commission, having left for military service in France.

Four ex-cabinet ministers, including Messrs. Howden, Caldwell and Armstrong, were criticized for their reluctance in testifying, and Sir Edmund Roblin, ex-premier, the report said, "made common cause with the contractors to resist discovery and took active part in securing for the contractors able counsel for that purpose."

Sent Out of Canada.

William Bell was the witness alleged by the commission to have been bribed to keep out of Canada during the investigation. The report finds that Messrs. Caldwell and Howden, the ex-cabinet ministers, Thomas Kelly, the contractor, V. W. Hirsch, ex-provincial architect, Dr. Simpson, the conservative organizer, W. A. Kilfoil, an employee of the public works department, M. G. Hook, another employee who was sent after Bell with \$10,000 and claims he was robbed in Omaha, and Harry Whittle, K. C., all interested themselves in keeping Bell out of the country, and that Mr. Caldwell inspired the alteration of Bell's books.

Dr. Simpson donated the amount to be paid for the election fund before the amount of "extras" was settled, according to the report, which claims such amounts were paid him by the contractor when received from the government.

Big Frauds Alleged.

From April 21 to July 2, 1914, just before the elections of the latter month, payments were made the contractors totalling \$882,208, upwards of \$600,000 of which was fraudulent overpayments by the government to the contractors. During that campaign six government candidates in Winnipeg made returns showing their election expense as nil, and the commissioners assume their expenses were heavy and were paid out of the extras for the parliament buildings.

The total amount paid the contractors was \$1,864,412. On behalf of the commission, Engineer Woodman estimates the total value of work done by the contractors at \$512,336 and value of material on the ground at \$68,512, or a total value of \$580,848, which makes excess payments of \$1,283,564 without including 15 per cent which ought to have been held back, or \$1,919,796 more.

To Secure Campaign Fund.

The commissioners also proved that the practice of making excessive payments to secure a campaign fund was continued in the steel contracts, the government's structural engineers all adopting prices from 40 to 50 per cent higher than steel actually could be bought.

Dr. Montague's defense that he simply O. K'd the work of his subordinates is not accepted by the commissioners, who show that on first taking office as minister of public works he demanded expert sanction before passing on vouchers, but that when Dr. Simpson had seen him and thereafter it was all plain sailing for the contractor.

Contract Is Destroyed.

The commissioners deal at some length with the famous \$300,000 contract which Premier Roblin destroyed after rescinding the order in council authorizing it. "We cannot," say the commissioners, "but regard the reason assigned for taking this extraordinary step as other than unscrupulous and absurd. We believe the minister desired to obliterate the contract and every trace of its existence because they knew it was a fraud upon the province, the discovery of which, in view of the threatened inquiry into the expenditure upon the

buildings would of a certainty compromise them."

On advice of his counsel, Edward Anderson, Mr. Kelly refused to put himself within the jurisdiction of the royal commission, pending the outcome of the appeal he is taking to the judicial committee of the privy council, challenging the jurisdiction of the royal commission.

Ex-Premier Roblin is in his home in Winnipeg and Messrs. Caldwell and Howden are at home respectively at Brandon and Neepawa, Manitoba.

### ITALY RELEASES U. S. CITIZEN FROM SERVICE

Washington, Aug. 25.—The Italian embassy notified the state department today that Italy, in response to a protest from the Washington government, had released from military service Ugo DeBartoli, of Boston, son of an Italian naturalized in the United States. As many similar cases have arisen officials regard the Italian action as establishing an important precedent.

\$200,000,000 PAID IN BRITISH ALLOWANCES

London, Aug. 25 (6:12 p. m.)—In continuing a soldier for fraud in connection with separation allowances, Manistate Sir William Trevelyan today remarked that he understood the nation was now paying something like \$200,000,000 (\$200,000,000) a year in these allowances to families of soldiers absent at the front.

NIGHT RIDERS IN KENTUCKY ARE IN GRIP OF LAW

Two Plead Guilty and Are Sentenced to Penitentiary; 9 on Trial and 53 Wait Action of Court.

Hartford, Ky., Aug. 25.—The long struggle of the authorities with lawlessness in this portion of western Kentucky culminated in the Ohio county circuit court here today when more than three score persons were placed on trial for alleged participation in night riding outrages. When court adjourned two men had pleaded guilty, nine others were on trial and fifty-three were awaiting a hearing.

The two men who threw themselves on the mercy of the court were sentenced to fifteen years each in the penitentiary for flouting a man and a woman. The nine men on trial were indicted with them. Charges against the remainder allege maltreatment of various persons and the murder of a negro.

Scores of persons in Ohio and neighboring counties have been flogged at night and their homes riddled with bullets within the last ten months by bands of recruited men. Whites and negroes alike have suffered.

The authorities say removal advanced to the vicinities indicated the night riders were endeavoring to regulate the conduct of communities through intimidation, displace negro labor with white men fix prices which necessitate should charge for merchandise.

Teutons Plan to Invade Serbia via Bulgaria

London, Aug. 26 (3:02 a. m.)—Telegraphing from Bucharest, the Balkan correspondent of the Times says reports have been received there from many quarters to the effect that the Austro-German forces which are being concentrated along the northern bank of the Danube for the projected invasion of Serbia will enter that country through Bulgarian territory via Vidin, Belogradchik and Sofia.

The Times correspondent, who usually is well informed, declares he has reason to believe the Bulgarian government has been notified of this intended aggression that it cooperate with the central powers. The fate of Belgium, he says, he has heard, has been cited as an object lesson of what might happen if resistance was offered, while Bulgaria has been told that if she acquiesces in the plan she will be given a free hand in dealing with Serbia.

Much will depend, the correspondent asserts, upon the attitude of Rumania, whose intentions are unknown, but who is believed to be averse to another Balkan conflict and to disapprove an attack upon Serbia.

Russians Evacuate Another Fortress

London, Aug. 26 (4:13 a. m.)—According to the Times Petrograd correspondent, the Russians have already evacuated Bialystok but will continue to hold Grodno until the bulk of the armies of the grand duke have reached their appointed positions to the east of Vilna.

British Airman Killed.

London, Aug. 25 (6:03 p. m.)—Sub-lieutenant John McLarty of the royal naval flying corps was killed while flying a seaplane over Southampton water on the English coast. The machine met with a mishap and McLarty fell out, dropping 700 feet

## GERARD CALLED IN CONFERENCE BY VON JAGOW

Ambassador Leaves Luncheon Parly to Respond to the Invitation of German Foreign Minister.

### GERMANY READY TO PACIFY AMERICA

Berlin, Aug. 25 (via London, 8:42 p. m.)—While the situation regarding the case of the Arabic is by no means clear, indications were noticeable today of a belief that a moderate amount of optimism regarding the case is well justified and that a way will be found out of the entanglement even should it be established that the steamer was torpedoed without warning—an assumption which the German government has as yet, in the lack of any official report on the subject, no reason to accept.

The newspapers and the public seem hardly to have awakened to the nature of the situation and between the divergent views of Theodore Roosevelt and William J. Bryan, which they were given today, find little enlightenment regarding the real state of American public opinion.

The foreign office, however, is evidently fully aware of the delicate nature of the situation and is disposed to avoid a crisis.

Bernstorff Goes to National Capital.

New York, Aug. 25.—Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, left here late tonight for Washington without, however, making any announcement as to his plans upon reaching the capital.

Harding Urges Bankers to Aid Cotton Growers

Member of Federal Reserve Board Declares Situation Is One Calling for Intelligent Leadership.

Birmingham, Ala., Aug. 25.—W. P. G. Harding, of the federal reserve board, told the Alabama Merchants' association here that the placing of cotton on the contraband list by the federal government had created a desperate situation but rather was calling for intelligent leadership. He urged southern bankers to make concessions to finance the crop and predicted there would be international competition for the American crop despite the fact that it was not a cash crop.

Mr. Harding, however, that he was not speaking tonight for the federal board, but was giving his personal views.

"Germany," said Mr. Harding, "is anxious to have cotton as the allies are to prevent her. It is not inconceivable that there may be evidence before very long of international competition for possession of the south's great staple. It is at least a possibility that cotton will be purchased in large quantities for foreign account and stored in such warehouses, to be shipped out as needed and as opportunities for shipment arise."

"No one has ever accused the Germans of being lacking in far-sightedness. They are already looking forward to what will happen when peace is restored and that they will make a supreme effort to recover their lost trade with other nations cannot be doubted. Is it reasonable to believe that they would look with complacency upon the absolute domination of the cotton market by the mills of England and America, permitting them to secure their supplies of cotton at very low prices and defer their own purchases until after peace is made and take the chances of securing then their own stocks at much higher prices? Is it not reasonable to believe that they will arrange to buy cotton as the spinners of other nations buy it, and can they not easily arrange to have their cotton purchases stored in this country for their own use? Is it not reasonable to believe that they will transport it to their own shores?"

Mr. Harding said the south's welfare depends upon the marketing of cotton at fairly remunerative rates, and southern bankers should, wherever possible, make liberal concessions in their loan rates on commodity loans. High interest, he pointed out, means forced sales.

"Present conditions," he said, "falsely justify low rates and southern bankers should be willing to forego temporary profits for the sake of security and solidity in the future."

Germany Wishes No Break with America

Washington, Aug. 25.—President Wilson has been informed unofficially from sources close to Count von Bernstorff, the German ambassador, that the next communication from Berlin on the sinking of the White Star liner will be of a character satisfactory to the United States.

Coming close on the telegram which the ambassador forwarded to the state department yesterday by direction of his government, declaring it was not the intention of Germany that any American lives should be sacrificed in the sinking of the ship was regarded as indicating that Germany would make some proposal satisfactory to the United States respecting submarine attack on vessels purely of a passenger-carrying nature. Officials are at a loss to conjecture what the German government will propose, but the assurance that there is every desire in Berlin to avoid a break with the United States has relieved the situation very much.

Heretofore, Germany has contended that neutral ships could not ignore a belligerent ship against attack, especially those carrying munitions. In its reply to the first Lusitania note, Germany proposed to designate certain ships which would be guaranteed against attack, but the American government flatly rejected that proposal. Officials were eager to know what position Germany would now take without surrendering her contended right to wage submarine warfare against enemy commerce.

The aim of President Wilson and all administration officials to avoid a rupture with Germany but to do so without surrender of the neutral rights for which the United States has been contending in the name of international law and humanity, was reflected by officials informally while discussing this latest phase of the situation. They were hopeful that a disavowal of the submarine commander's act in sinking the Arabic without warning would be forthcoming, but the administration is ready to listen to Berlin's next word.

In a receptive attitude towards any explanation or statement which the German government wishes to offer concerning the sinking of the Arabic, the state department is proceeding with the collection of all of the testimony which it is possible to obtain from the ship's survivors. Half a dozen affidavits already have been received, all tending to show that the liner was torpedoed without warning, and that she was making no attempt to escape or to attack the submarine.

Special mention has been given the statement by the captain of the Arabic that his ship when attacked was at least two miles distant from the steamer Dunsley, which had been torpedoed. This was regarded by officials as important because of its bearing upon suggestions that a torpedo directed at the Dunsley might have struck the Arabic. Some of the first statements said that the Arabic was steaming to the assistance of the Dunsley, and gave rise to speculation as to whether the German submarine commander might contend he feared an attempt was being made to ram him.

Secretary Lansing declined to state today whether he would invite Count von Bernstorff to come to Washington

to confer with him. He has made no reply to the ambassador's message of yesterday transmitting instructions from the Berlin foreign office arguing that the United States take no stand in regard to the Arabic, until Germany could be heard from.

Germany Means to Avoid Crisis Over Arabic

Berlin, Aug. 25 (via London, 8:42 p. m.)—While the situation regarding the case of the Arabic is by no means clear, indications were noticeable today of a belief that a moderate amount of optimism regarding the case is well justified and that a way will be found out of the entanglement even should it be established that the steamer was torpedoed without warning—an assumption which the German government has as yet, in the lack of any official report on the subject, no reason to accept.

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Secretary Lansing declined to state today whether he would invite Count von Bernstorff to come to Washington

## RUMORED RAID OF MEXICANS ON EL PASO CAUSE OF MUCH ALARM

General Pershing Hastily Places Troops in Position to Defend City and Guards Are Posted at Bridges.

### ANTI-VILLA FACTIONS UNITE IN MOVEMENT

Soldiers Are Hurried to Camp in Automobiles and City and County Authorities Are Fully Alert.

El Paso, Tex., Aug. 25.—Following the rumor that a large body of Mexican troops were preparing to cross the border, troops of the Sixth and Sixteenth infantry were hurriedly recalled from temporary leaves of absence in the city tonight, about 12 o'clock, and were ordered to report immediately at Fort Bliss.

A special guard was stationed at the city police station.

General John J. Pershing, commanding the Eighth infantry brigade, went into conference at a hotel here with representatives of the department of justice shortly after the general alarm was sent out. After the conference General Pershing said:

"A man came to us with a story of an uprising tonight of Mexicans of the Huerta, Carranza and Colorado factions operating under the title of nationalists. Later he seemed to have substantiated his story. I have ordered the troops to their camps as a precautionary measure, not caring to take a chance. I have stationed men at the bridges and the viaduct and along the river."

In connection with the military preparations, it was learned that notification had been given the city and county authorities with the result tonight that the police have redoubled their vigilance.

Up to a late hour, soldiers were being hurried to their camps in automobiles.

### MUNITIONS EMPLOYEES SEEK SHORTER HOURS

Washington, Aug. 25.—Conferees with financiers who are supervising purchases of war munitions in the United States for the allies will be sought by officials of the metal trades unions in their efforts to obtain shorter hours and improved conditions for machinery and other metal workers employed in munition plants. This step was determined upon today by executive officials of the metal trades division of the American Federation of Labor in session here.

An effort will be made to arrange for the conference in New York next week.

### PREFER DEATH IN MEXICO TO DEATH IN TEXAS

Brownsville, Tex., Aug. 25.—Four of the ten Mexicans who were charged through Hidalgo county appeared at the Reynosa, Mexico, Carranza court of midnight last night, were arrested and are to be taken to Matamoros for trial. They declared they were so closely pursued that they decided to return to Mexico and face a firing squad on their native soil rather than be killed in the brush on the American side.

The band, said to be composed of Carranza deserters, were chased for four days by United States cavalry, men, Texas rangers and sheriffs' posses. The extent of their depredations, if any, is not known here.

It is understood that United States cavalrymen, Texas rangers and cowboys have usually given no quarter to border bandits when caught. In other words, the bandits have not been allowed to surrender but have been shot to death when found. It is estimated that considerably more than one hundred Mexicans who have recently crossed the Rio Grande to raid American ranches have been left dead when slain in the underbrush of the Texas border counties.

### TURKS CLAIM REPULSE OF ALLIES' ATTACKS

Constantinople, Aug. 25 (via London, 10:10 p. m.)—The following statement was issued by the Turkish government, dealing with operations in the Dardanelles:

"Near Ari Burnu on Sunday evening, after heavy grenade, rifle and machine gun firing, the enemy attacked Kanlidag. Our counter-attacks destroyed the greater part of the enemy's forces there."

"On Monday forenoon the enemy made a similar attempt near Yehil, Tepeli and Sungu Bair, but was compelled to retreat with severe losses."

"Near Seddul Bahr on the right wing our artillery shot down an enemy captive balloon."

### HAITIENS GIVEN SHORT TIME TO APPROVE TREATY

Washington, Aug. 25.—Word came from Port-au-Prince today that Charge Duvivier of the American legation had extended until tomorrow night the time for action by the Haitian parliament on the proposed treaty to establish for ten years an American financial protectorate over the island republic.

Noon today had been fixed by the charge as the time by which he would expect approval of the treaty draft submitted by the United States. The Haitians protested vigorously, however, against such a limit on debate in parliament and the extension was granted.

Secretary Lansing made a statement today explaining the purpose of the United States in proposing and pressing the treaty with Haiti at this time. He said the Washington government was acting from wholly disinterested motives to save the little republic from ruin through never-ending activities of so-called revolutionists for whom the country's revenues offered spoils. The secretary declared there was no foundation for reports that the proposed convention would give the United States Mole R. Nicholas as a naval base.

While Mr. Lansing would not discuss the treaty, it is known that it provides for American agents in charge of the ten customs houses, three of which, those at Port-au-Prince, Cap-Haitien and St. Marc, already have been taken over by fleet Admiral Caperton.

Salon Menos, the Haitian minister, conferred with Mr. Lansing during the day and presented a communication from his government requesting an explanation of certain points in the American proposals.

Although the minister would not discuss the negotiations, he said he felt sure that his government was anxious to bring about an understanding with the United States as speedily as possible. He made it clear that his government did not oppose the attempt of the United States to bring about peace and reconstruction in the island. Riots and uprisings, he explained, were in many cases due to ignorance of the intentions of the United States and a misunderstanding of the presence of American troops on Haitian soil.

Capt. Edward L. Beach, chief of staff of Rear Admiral Caperton,